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URBAN DISTRICT OF BEDLINGTONSHIRE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1945.

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Department of the Medical Officer of
Health.

146, Station Road,
Ashington,
Northumberland.

22nd October, 1946.

Dear Sir,

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of
Health for Bedlingtonshire for 1945.

I beg to correct an error which
appears on page 11 of the above report.

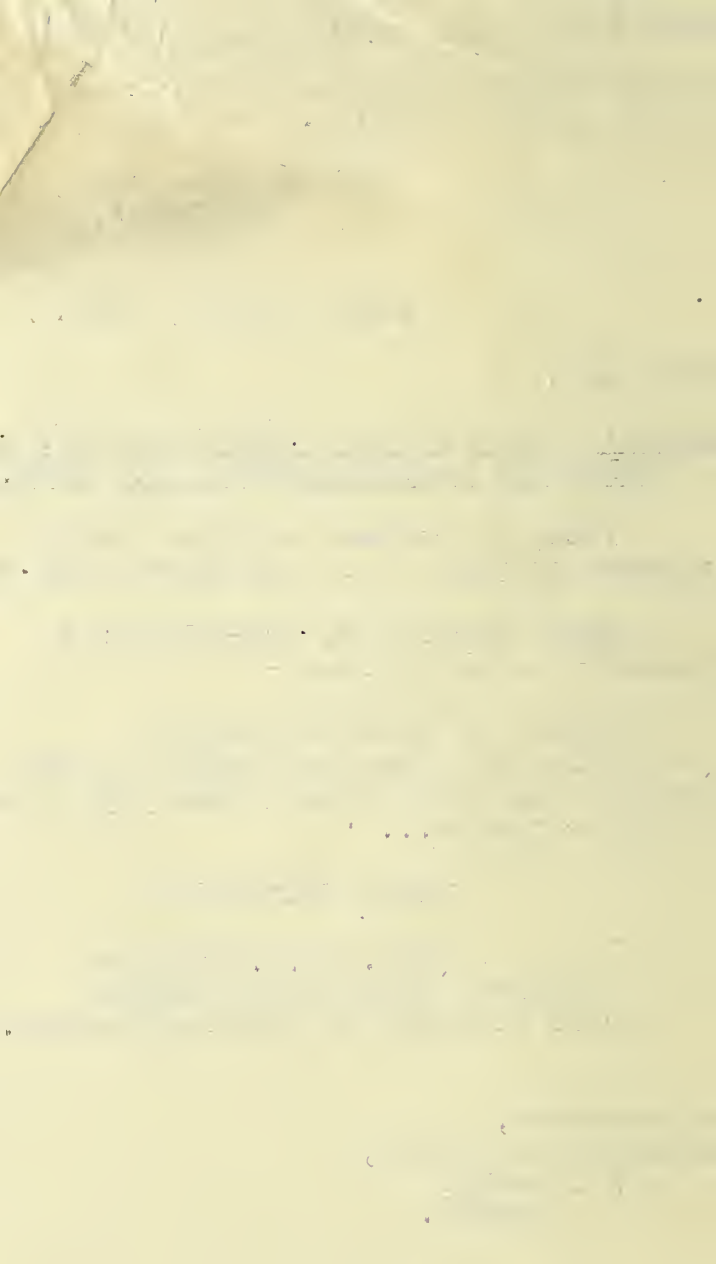
Under Section D, sub-section 4
should read as follows:-

Number of dwelling houses
(exclusive of those referred to under
the preceding sub-head) found not to be
in all respects...

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) C.B. McGregor
Medical Officer of Health,
Urban District of Bedlingtonshire.

The Secretary,
Ministry of Health,
Whitehall,
London.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedlingtonshire Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to submit to you the Annual Report for 1945,
concerning the health and sanitary circumstances of the
Urban District.

This report is briefer than those of previous years
since the section on the Maternity and Child Welfare
services is omitted in view of the fact that on 14-2-45
these services were taken over by the Northumberland County
Council and the Bedlingtonshire Urban District Council ceased
to be a Welfare Authority.

Apart from this there is no change of note to report as
war conditions continued to be in force during most of the year.

It is hoped that 1946 will bring great progress in dealing
with the urgent problem of the housing shortage.

One regrettable item in the report is that deaths from
Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered eleven which was more than
double the figure for the previous year, although the number
of new cases shows a slight decrease.

Many Tuberculous persons are living in highly unsatisfactory
conditions and the re-housing of such persons and their families
is an urgent problem which should receive re-consideration by
the Council in the near future. Good living conditions are
of the utmost importance in dealing with Tuberculosis and in
preventing its spread.

I must, once more, express my gratitude for the consideration
which has been extended to me by the members of the Council and
for the loyal support and assistance I have received from the staffs
of the Sanitary Department and other departments of the Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.B. MCGREGOR, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,
Urban District of Bedlingtonshire.

August 1946.



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1945.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health } Medical Officer, Infectious } Diseases Hospital. }	Catherine B. McGregor, M. B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Sanitary } Meat } Inspector....	R.M. Laverick, M. S. I. A.
Sanitary Inspector (additional)	R.W. Cowans, appointed December 1939 Joined H.M. Forces September 1940.
Offices of the M. O. H.	146, Station Road, Ashington.
Telephone.....	Ashington 287.
Offices of the Sanitary Inspector.....	Council Offices, Front Street Bedlington.
Telephone.....	Bedlington 2353

URBAN DISTRICT OF BEDLINGTONSHIRE.

Annual Report of the Medical officer of Health
for 1945.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area, in acres - 9,025.748.

Registrar General's estimate of
Resident population mid 1945 - 25,460.

Rateable Value - £100,810.

One Penny rate produces - £375

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945) - 7505.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births:-

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	442	239	203
Illegitimate	39	21	18

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 18.9

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	8	4	4
Illegitimate	1	1	-

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 20.4.

<u>Deaths:-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	296	165	131

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population - 11.63

Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short list):-

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 total</u> <u>(live and still) births.</u>
No. 29.Puerperal Sepsis	1	2.04
No. 30.Other puerperal causes	2	4.08

Death Rate of Infants under one year of Age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	54.05
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	56.56
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	25.64

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	36
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	4

The Registrar General supplies the following:-

CAUSES OF DEATH 1945.

<u>Cause of death</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-
5. Diphtheria	1	-
6. Tuberculosis of resp. sys.	4	7
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	-
8. Syphilitic diseases.	-	-
9. Influenza	1	-
10. Measles	-	-
11. Acute polio-myel: and polio-enceph.	-	-
12. Acute inf. enceph.	-	-
13. Cancer of Buc.cav. & oesoph(M) uterus(F)	2	3
14. Cancer of Stomach.	5	5
15. Cancer of Breast	-	-
16. Cancer of all other sites	13	8
17. Diabetes	1	3
18. Intra cranial vascular lesions.	18	3
19. Heart disease	43	31
20. Other diseases of the circ. sys.	7	8
21. Bronchitis.	10	4
22. Pneumonia	7	2
23. Other resp. diseases.	2	3
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	2	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	2
26. Appendicitis.	2	1
27. Other digve. dis.	4	4
28. Nephritis.	4	3
29. Puerperal and post-abortion. sepsis.	-	1
30. Other Maternal causes.	-	-
31. Premature birth	4	5
32. Con.mal. birth injur., infant. dis.	2	2
33. Suicide	-	1
34. Road traffic acc.	1	1
35. Other violent causes.	7	3
36. All other causes.	21	20
	<u>165</u>	<u>131</u>

Deaths of infants under (legitimate	Male	Female.
one year. (Illegitimate	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1945.

The total number of deaths of children under one year was 26. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 54.05 per 1,000 live births compared with 52.08 for the previous year.

The deaths of children under one month numbered 15 of which 12 occurred under one week, and of these 8 died as the result of premature birth.

The Registrar General's table S.D. 55 gives the infantile mortality rate as follows:-

For England and Wales 46 deaths per 1,000 live births.

For 126 Great Towns 54 deaths per 1,000 live births.

For 148 Smaller Towns (population 25,000 - 50,000) 43 deaths per 1,000 live births.

The infantile mortality rate for Bedlingtonshire is thus considerably in excess of the average rate for similar areas throughout the country.

The following table shows the comparative mortality during the past seven years:-

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number of deaths from Diarrhoea & Enteritis under 2 years.	2	2	Nil	4	1	4	4
Infantile deaths under 1 yr.	28	23	30	21	30	30	26
Infantile Mortality Rate.	66.67	51.69	70.8	50.7	58.94	52.08	54.05

The following table gives details of the causes of death in the different age groups under one year:-

INFANTILE MORTALITY - 1945.

Causes of death	Und. 1 wk	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	Total under 1 mth	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	8	1	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Birth Injury	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Atalectasis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Abnormality	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1	6
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gastro-Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	4
Convulsions	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Septicaemia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	12	1	1	1	15	3	4	2	2	26

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Laboratory belonging to the Northumberland County Council. The extent to which the facilities have been utilized is shown below:-

Specimen sent in by	Specimen	Pos.	Neg.
M. O. H.	Swabs for C. Diphtheria	13	184
Assistant School Medical Officer	- do -	4	17
Medical Practitioners.	- do -	73	151
Medical Practitioners.	Swabs for Haemolytic streptococcus	11	
C. C. T. O.	Sputa for Tubercle.	1	46
Medical Practitioners	- do -	8	146
Medical Practitioners.	Throat Swab for Vincents Angina.		1

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Ambulance vehicles 6 - Bedlington 2; Cambois 1; Choppington 1; Netherton 2.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

No change. Number of District nurses and mid-wives - 8

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

As before.

HOSPITALS, PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

There is no hospital of either type in the district.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services were transferred to the County Council on 14. 2. 45. Clinics are held at the Child Welfare Centre, South Parade, Choppington, as follows:-

ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

1st, 3rd and 4th or last Monday and 1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Patients are attended by their own family Doctors.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Every Tuesday - all day and every Thursday at 2 p.m. 1st Monday of each month at the Institute, Cambois at 2 p.m.

SUN RAY CLINICS.

Every Tuesday at 10. a.m. and every Friday at 1.30 p.m.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

1st Monday of each month at 10. a.m.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The public water-supply for the district is received from the Water Department of the Tynemouth Corporation. The supply of water has been satisfactory and well maintained. Previous to entering the Urban District the water is subjected to Chlorination. The quality has been good and free from contamination, and is regularly tested by the Vendors.

The chief watermains from Hirst Head to Bank Top have been renewed covering a distance of almost two thousand, one hundred yards, and within proximity of three new Housing Sites the laying of primary mains with various connections has been completed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The principle sewers all empty into tidal waters. The chief outfalls are situated at the estuaries of the Rivers Blyth and Wansbeck. The sewers near the coast line empty direct into the sea. In most instances an arrangement for the purpose of sediment screening is provided near each of the outfalls. Almost one hundred yards of old sewers have been taken up and renewed in various localities, and ten additional man-holes have been constructed.

Rivers and Streams.

Domestic Water Supplies from rivers or streams are unknown, and no action has been necessary under this heading.

Closet Accommodation.

The district is served by the water carriage system with the exception of a few isolated cases situated beyond the reach of any public sewer. In a few singular instances Chemical Closets are installed. Two conversions have been completed in the area of Ewart Hill, and an extra Water Closet constructed at a factory providing for the Separation of sexes.

Public Cleansing.

The removal of house refuse has been carried out partly by direct labour and partly by contract. Gradually the abolition of all contract work in the scavenging areas is becoming the desire of the Local Authority and eventually the whole of the district may be scavenged by vehicles and labour provided by the Council. The intervals between the times of collection are varied as in the case of dust bins which are emptied twice weekly, and in the case of ordinary ashpits once fortnightly. For the disposal of refuse disused claypit excavations are the chief places of deposit, and these are situated at Choppington, Bedlington Station, Barrington, Stakeford and Cambois. Other small land depressions have been filled in during the year. All attention has been given towards the Collection of Salvage by the Department. The method of collection has been kept quite separate from the Refuse Collection, and separate hired vehicles have been employed for the various places

of collection. The system adopted is individual house-to-house collection. Dwellings are visited weekly, and shops fortnightly.

The Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The appended table provides the number and nature of inspections for various defects during the year.

Tabular Statement.

	No. of inspections during the year.	No. of defects or contraventions of bye laws.	No. outstanding from previous year.	Total	No. remedied after letter or interview	No. of Statutory notices served	Defects remedied thereafter.	In process or being dealt with
<u>Housing.</u>								
Structural Defects.	194	69	11	80	63	-	-	17
Overcrowding)	21	7	-	7	7	-	-	-
Nuisances.)								
<u>Water Supply.</u>								
Insufficient.)								
Unsatisfactory.)								
Defective Services.)	80	37	-	37	37	-	-	-
<u>Drainage</u>								
Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defective.	93	41	-	41	41	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences.</u>								
Insufficient.)								
Defective.)	51	37	-	37	37	-	-	-
Shops, Foodstores, etc.	198	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dairies, Cowsheds.	174	13	-	13	13	-	-	-
Slaughter House.	398	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents, Vans, etc.	4	2	-	2	2	-	-	-
Offensive Trades.	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	-
Factories.	17	5	-	5	5	-	-	-
Keeping Animals	14	7	-	7	7	-	-	-
Insanitary Ash.)								
receptacle)	175	131	-	131	131	-	-	-
Ashpits improperly used.	4	4	-	4	4	-	-	-
Offensive accumulation.	21	12	-	12	12	-	-	-
Smoke nuisances.								
	1446	367	11	378	361	-	-	17

Details of Housing Repairs as in preceding Table:-

Nature of Work.	Number Repaired.	Number Renewed.
Roofs and Ridges.	41	2
Chimney Stacks.	5	2
Spouting & Fall pipes.	27	31
Walling.	6	-
Window Sashes and Frames.	18	12
Doors and Frames.	11	12
Wall plaster.	14	17
Ceilings.	21	13
Chimney Breasts.	5	-
Flooring.	16	8
Ranges & Fireplaces.	9	-
Water Services.	37	-
Water Closets & Services.	37	-
Choked Drains.	41	-
Dust Bins.		131
Totals.	288	228

Requisitioning of property for the purpose of Housing.

At front street Bedlington the Old Mason's Arms Public House came under the above category. These premises have been re-constructed and are now inhabited by five different families.

At other two vacated houses an amicable arrangement was made with the owners for the purpose of occupation. Thus other two families were found accommodation.

All of the families were living under overcrowding conditions

Shops and Offices. No action

Camping Sites. There are no Civilian Camps in the district.

Swimming Baths and Pools An open-air public swimming bath is situated at Humford Mill. The water is received from the river Blyth and is regularly cleansed and chlorinated. In addition there are also Pit Head Shower Baths existing at the Collieries in the vicinity of Bedlington, Stakeford and Cambois.

Eradication of the Bed Bug.

- (1). The number of Council Houses Infested 9.
Other Houses. 18.
- (2). The method employed for freeing infested houses is by fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide following the general spraying with Insectide.

- (3) The disinfection is carried out by the local Authority.
- (4) As far as possible the occupiers are advised how to prevent the re-Infestation.
- (5) Frequent infestation of beetles has had attention, the occupiers being supplied with material for the disinfection.

Schools.

The Sanitary arrangements and water supply of the schools continue to be satisfactory, and the Refuse Collection is carried out at regular intervals. For the closet accommodation the water carriage system is established at all the schools and the supply of water is direct from the Council Mains.

Section D.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 87
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 194
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (Included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... Nil
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose of Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 69

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or its Officers 63

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-

- Sections(a),(b),(c), and (d), Nil returns have been received.
- (a) Number of new houses erected during the year Nil
 - (b) As part of the Municipal Housing Scheme Nil.

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

There are forty Registered Milk Producers with the area; the majority of these are Producers and Retailers. There are three Producers of accredited Milk and the remainder supply ordinary milk.

Also there are six Retailers of Pasteurised Milk, one holding a Supplementary Licence. In addition one person continues to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk. All the Designated Milk comes from outside the district. The approximate number of cows - 550. The premises have had every attention and the conditions found have been very satisfactory.

Sampling of Milk.

Forty one samples of milk have been submitted to the Laboratory for examination.

For Cleanliness.

Results.

Methylene Blue Test:- In 38 Instances - Satisfactory.
In 2 do. - 4½, Hours Reduction Time.
In 1 Instance. - 4, Hours Reduction Time.

—
Total. 41

For Tuberculosis.

41 Samples - Result - 3 Positive and dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Meat Inspection.

The Slaughter House continues to be the premises of the Bedlington Co-operative Society Ltd., and is still operating very satisfactorily.

Examination of Carcases.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed and number inspected	1027	82	10	5087	23
All diseases except Tuberculosis.		2	2	1	
Whole carcases condemned.					

Examination of Carcasses (cont).

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	97	21	-	64	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	9.44	28.05	20	1.27	4.34
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned.	2	3	1	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	99	23	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	9.83	31.71	10	:02	-

Meat, Organs, etc., Condemned and Surrendered as unfit for Human Consumption.Bovine Animals.For Tuberculosis.

Number of Whole Carcasses.	5
" " Lungs.	97
" " Hearts	16
" " Heads & Tongues	31
" " Livers	8
" " Skirts	2
" " Tripe & Gut	2

Diseases other than Tuberculosis:-

Whole Carcasses:- Septicaemia 1, Septic Mastitis, 1.

Heads & Tongues:-Tonsillar Ulcers 4, Actinomycosis 3, Abscesses 1.

Lungs:- Pleurisy 7, Abscesses 16, Cysts 5, Pneumonia 2, Echinococci 1.

Hearts:-Pleurisy 6, Pericarditis 1.

Livers:-Cirrhosis 41, Distomatosis 21, Abscesses 13, Necrosis 2, Degenerate 1, Calcification 1.

Skirts:-Abscesses 8.

Spleens:-Inflamed 2.

Trimming-(thorax):- Pleurisy 2.

Gut. (Abdomen):- Peritonitis 2.

Udders:- Mastitis 11, Abscesse 2.

Weight of Meat Condemned:-

By Disease 3851 lbs.
By Bruising 122 lbs.
By Bone Taint 46 lbs.

Sheep.

Whole Carcases:- Tuberculosis 1, Emaciation 1.

Heads:- Abscesses 2, Infestation 1.

Plucks:- Pleurisy 12, Abscesses 4, Cysts 3, Lipoma 2, Parasites 1.

Livers:- Cirrhoses 8, Abscesses 2, Necrosis 2, Flukes 1.

Lungs:- Parasites 13, Abscesses 9, Pneumonia 3.

Weight of Mutton condemned:-

By Disease 102 lb.
By Injury 18 lbs.

Calves.

Whole Carcases:- Tuberculosis 1, Extensive Bruising 1, Ill Bleeding 1.

Weight of Veal Condemned:-

By Disease 121 lbs.
By Injury 40 lbs.

Swine.

Plucks:- Pneumonia 1.

Other Foods examined and found to be unfit for food:-

Corned Beef	105 tins.	Corned Mutton	19 tins.
Cooked Ham	76½ lbs.	Chopped Ham	10 tins.
Luncheon Ham	3 tins.	Ready Meals	2 tins.
Sausage	12 lbs.	Sausage Meat	3 tins.
Mince Beef	5 lb.	Luncheon Meat	55 tins.
Pork Loaves	1 tin.	Ox Tongue	2 tins.
Beef	46 lbs.	Brisket Beef	1½ lbs.
Beef Loaf	1 tin.	Lamb tongue	1 tin.
Brawn	5 lbs.	Bacon	182 lbs.
Bacon Pig	150 lbs.	Meat & Vegetable	2 tins.
Corned Beef	52 lbs.	Tongue	3 lbs.
Spam	35 tins.	Steak	6 tins.
Steak Casserole	3 tins.	Stewed Steak	8 tins.
Kam	8 tins.	Milk	206 tins.
Full Cream Milk	2 tins.	Dried Milk	9 tins.
Baked Beans	17 tins.	Baked Beans	69 tins.
Beans & Tomatoes	17 tins.	Butter	291 tins.
Lard	23 lbs.	Sugar	15 lbs.

Tea 15 lbs.
 Jam 243 jars.
 Salmon 24 tins.
 Pilchards 47 tins.
 Pickles 21 jars.
 Flour 3 lbs.
 Ginger 1 tin.
 Pudding Meat 28 tins.
 Sauce 2 bottles.
 Soups 50 tins.
 Cheese 24 lbs.
 Salad Dressing 33 tins.
 Prunes 25 lbs.
 Oranges 448 lbs.

Cocoa 1 tin.
 Marmalade 40 jars.
 Mackerel 10 tins.
 Sardines 1 tin.
 Chutney 1 jar.
 Lingford Mix 432 pkts.
 Cooking Fat 168 lbs.
 Pudding Mixture 144 pkts.
 Meat Paste 2 tins.
 Peas 34 tins.
 Eggs 460
 Peaches 99 lbs.
 Plums 7 tins.
 Sweet Cakes 22 dozen.

Shell Fish.

A few shell fish layers lie indiscriminately scattered within the estuary of the River Blyth chiefly consisting of Mussels and exposed to contamination. Notices are posted in the vicinity prohibiting the collection of these shell fish. Collection has been unknown during the year.

Rodents.

For the destruction of Rodents the sewers and the refuse tips have had frequent attention. In the case of dwellings the occupiers have been given every assistance and advice where reports have been received.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease was provided throughout the year at Ashington Unit of the South East Northumberland Joint Hospital Board, of which the Urban District Council is a constituent authority.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	15	1	-
Diphtheria.	64	49	1
Pneumonia.	21	unknown.	9
Erysipelas.	5	-	-
Measles.	293	-	-
Whooping Cough.	30	-	-

Table Showing Analysis of Notified Cases of
Infectious Diseases under Age Groups.

	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	65-	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	2	7	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	15
Diphtheria	-	1	1	3	2	20	12	6	7	11	1	-	-	64
Pneumonia	2	1	1	-	1	3	-	2	-	3	3	4	1	21
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	5
Measles	15	39	42	45	37	103	7	1	-	2	-	-	2	293
Whooping Cough	3	3	7	6	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30

Enteric Fevers and Dysentery.

No case was notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

This disease again showed a reduction, there being 15 cases notified as compared with 21 in 1944. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria.

This disease, which affected Bedlingtonshire so badly in 1944, continued to be very prevalent during 1945 although in less epidemic form. There were 64 cases notified as compared with 85 in the previous year.

The middle of January was marked by a sharp outbreak in the Choppington and Scotland Gate district but following the discovery and removal to hospital of 6 carriers, five of whom were members of one family, this outbreak was checked.

Cases were notified throughout the year as follows:-

	<u>Cases.</u>	<u>Carriers.</u>
January	12	6
February	3	1
March	4	1
April	1	-
May	6	-
June	-	-
July	2	-
August	3	-
September	9	1
October	7	2
November	7	-
December	10	1
	<hr/> 64	<hr/> 12
	16.	

On the whole the cases were less severe than in the earlier stages of the epidemic and there was only one death, which occurred in a non-immunised adult.

Out of the total of 64 cases, 17 were known to have been immunised while 47 had no record of immunisation.

The table showing the analysis of cases according to age groups, suggests that there was a tendency for the disease to affect a higher proportion of persons in the older age groups.

Of the 85 cases notified in 1944 there were 42 under the age of 10 years and 43 over 10 years of whom 19 were over 15 years and 8 were over 20 years.

Of the 64 cases notified in 1945, there were 27 under 10 years and 37 over 10 years, of whom 25 were over 15 years and 19 over 20 years.

These figures are interesting although the totals are too small to be significant. A similar tendency has been noted in the Country as a whole, since the institution of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.

Since all schools in the Shire were visited in 1944 and many were re-visited in the same year it was not possible to pay any further visits during 1945, but a complete round of the schools will again be made in 1946.

During the year, 24 school children and 17 pre-school children were inoculated by their family Doctor while 599 pre-school children received treatment at the Child Welfare Centre.

At the end of the year the immunisation state of the child population was as follows:-

Under 5 years immunised	53.75%
5 - 15 years "	84.00%
Total population under 15 years immunised	73.96%

There is thus still considerable room for improvement in the figure for pre-school children but the figure of 73.96% compares quite favourably with the corresponding figure of 58% which is that given for the child population for the whole of England and Wales at the end of 1945.

The present aim of the Ministry of Health is to have 75% of the population under 15 immunised.

Measles.

This disease was again epidemic in the first half of 1945. There were notified altogether 293 cases and of these all but three occurred in the first half of the year. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

There were 30 cases of Whooping Cough notified and all of these occurred in children below the age of 10 years. There were no deaths.

Pneumonia.

Notifications of this disease again showed a decrease, there being 21 cases reported as compared with 30 in 1944. There were 9 deaths.

DEFENCE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1939. SCABIES ORDER, 1941 NO 33A

The numbers attending the cleansing station again showed a decrease during 1945, there being only 43 cases treated as compared with 142 in the previous year. Patients suffering from Scabies and Lice numbered 14 as compared with 56, and no patients were treated for Lice only.

Part of this reduction may have been due to the fact that the C. D. services were disbanded at the end of June 1945 and the C. D. ambulances were thus no longer available for the transport of persons coming from a distance. This made it difficult to require the attendance of such persons.

There was, however, undoubtedly a great reduction in the incidence of Scabies and this was the main cause of the reduction in the numbers treated.

Verminous conditions of the head continue to be all too prevalent as is shown by the fact that of 54 patients admitted to the Ashington Hospital of the South East Northumberland Joint Hospital Board from Bedlingtonshire 25 or 46% had head lice or nits on admission.

Out of 356 persons admitted to the hospital from the whole of the No. 2 Medical Area 152 or 42.6% were found, on admission to be infested with nits or lice.

The figures show some improvement on those of the previous year, but are still disturbingly high.

The following table shows the number of persons from Bedlingtonshire who were treated according to their ages and conditions from which they suffered.

	<u>SCABIES ONLY.</u>		<u>SCABIES & LICE.</u>			
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Over 15 years	1	6	-	8	1	1
5 - 16 years	1	10	2	2	-	-
Under 5 years	1	4	1	1	-	-
	<u>23</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Also appended is a table showing the total numbers treated from all the five districts included in the No.2 Medical Area.

	<u>Scabies Only.</u>		<u>Scabies & Lice.</u>		<u>Lice Only</u>		<u>Scabies not discovered.</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Over 16 yrs	31	48	1	21	-	1	1	10
5 - 16 years	68	48	10	38	-	9	6	1
Under 5 yrs	13	14	1	3	1	-	5	5
	112	110	12	62	1	10	12	16

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non-resp.</u>		<u>Resp.</u>		<u>Non-resp.</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-
5-	2	2	1	3	-	-	-	-
15-	5	4	-	-	-	1	1	-
25-	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-
35-	2	-	1	-	1	3	1	-
45-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 & over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	13	9	8	6	4	7	2	-

Non- notified deaths - 2
Total deaths - 15

CANCER MORTALITY 1945.

	<u>MALES.</u>					<u>FEMALES.</u>				
	30-	45-	55-	65-	Total.	30-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Brain	1	-	1	-	2	1	1	1	-	3
Larynx	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Oesophagus	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchus	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Lung	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1
Stomach	-	1	2	2	5	1	1	2	2	6
Colon	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
Rectum	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	1	-	2
Cervix	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Spine	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Scrotum	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
	1	4	4	10	19	3	4	6	4	17

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1945. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	125 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Live Births	16.1 /	19.1	19.2	15.7
Still "	0.46 /	0.58	0.53	0.40
<u>Deaths:-</u>				
All Causes	11.4 /	13.5	12.3	13.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:-				
Deaths under 1 Year of Age	46 /	54	43	53
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6

* A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths

/ Per 1,000 related births

/ Rates per 1,000 Total population

(Cond)

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
<u>Notifications:-</u>				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
Whooping Cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :-

(a) Notifications:-

Puerperal Fever	9.93	12.65	8.81	(3.60
Puerperal Pyrexia)			(15.87

(b) Maternal Mortality - England and Wales :-

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No.147 Puerperal Infectious	Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other
0.25	0.08	0.24	1.22

Abortion:- Mortality per million women aged 15-45
- England and Wales:-

No. 140 With Sepsis	No. 141 Without Sepsis
18	6

★ Including Puerperal fever

